

**MARYLAND BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
MAY 11, 2016**

The meeting was called to order with a quorum at 1:18 p.m. by Victor C. March, Sr., President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Victor C. March, Sr., President
D. Lynn Newman, 1st Vice President
James Govoni, 2nd Vice President
Vernon Strayhorn, Sr., Secretary
Gladys Sewell
Robert Bradshaw Jr.
Mark Bailey
Lynn Shuppel
Dr. Ahmed Elzaree
Dr. Camille Bryan

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Wayne Cooper

STAFF

Ruth Ann Arty, Executive Director
Darlene Cline, Licensing Chief
Thomas Anderson, Health Occupations Inspector
Anthony DeFranco, Board Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 1:18pm. Mr. March reported the April minutes have not been fully transcribed, they will be approved at another time so the Board will have an opportunity to review them.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Ms. Arty reported it was a busy month at the Board. Ms. Arty thanked everyone who tried to get their renewal applications in by the 15th. Everyone that sent in an application was verified online before May 1st. The last of the licenses went out over the weekend and should be received by the 3rd, depending on the mail. Out of the active licenses that needed renewal there are thirty-five remaining. Ms. Arty made courtesy calls to the unlicensed persons of which two were supervising morticians. If you are a supervising mortician during licensing, it is very important to renew, or send in an alternative.

James Morton, mortician and owner of two funeral homes in Baltimore, passed away last week. The Board would like to convey sympathy to the Morton family.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

No report.

FAMILY SECURITY TRUST FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Gladys Sewell, Chair reported there is currently \$949,412.75 in the fund. The next meeting will be June 7, 2016 at 1:30 pm. We will be working on rewriting the regulations at that time.

PRE-NEED COMMITTEE REPORT

D. Lynn Newman, Chair reported upon review of inspection reports, there are still funeral homes not in compliance with different statements on their pre-need contracts. The Board will continue to address these funeral homes and advise them on what needs to be changed, and giving them time to do it. Ms. Arty also mentioned there had been a recent surge in some firms that are taking ownership in policies instead of using the irrevocable trust form. You cannot be the beneficiary or owner on someone's private life insurance policy.

ESTABLISHMENT/ INSPECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

James Govoni, Chair, reported on the following establishments.

Establishments

Mr. Govoni, moved for approval of Hedgman Funeral Service operating out of Ross-Bluford Funeral Service 7257 Old Alexandria Ferry Road, Clinton, Maryland. A motion was made and approved pending completed paperwork.

Mr. Govoni wished congratulations to Mr. March, his family and staff on the opening of March Life Tribute Center P.A. located at 5616 Old Court Road, Randallstown, Maryland.

LICENSURE COMMITTEE REPORT

James Govoni, Chair, reported on the following applicants.

Samuel Moon of Newman Funeral Home applied for an extension of his apprenticeship license. Mr. Newman recused himself from the vote. A motion was made and approved.

Reinstatement of Morticians License

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Shawn Wells for reinstatement of his mortician license. A motion was made and approved pending CEU's and the law exam.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Melissa Alexander for reinstatement of her mortician license. A motion was made and approved.

Apprentice

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Daniel Hensley of Burrier Queen Funeral Home. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Megan Gill of Stallings Funeral Home. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Joseph Tavormina for mortician. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Emily Thomas for mortician. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Elizabeth White for mortician. A motion was made and approved.

Mortician via Reciprocity

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Christine Bostian for mortician via reciprocity. A motion was made and approved.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee consists of Gladys Sewell, Chair, D. Lynn Newman, Lynn Shuppel, and Vernon L. Strayhorn, Sr. The Committee nominated the following people:

President – Victor C. March Sr.

1st Vice President – D. Lynn Newman

2nd Vice President – James Govoni

Secretary – Vernon L. Strayhorn Sr.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS COMMITTEE

Dr. Ahmed Elzaree, Chair reported on the following CEU's.

NFDA – NFDA Certified Crematory Operator Program – September 28, 2016 – 6 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

NFDA – NFDA Certified Crematory Operator Program – September 14, 2016 – 6 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

NFDA – NFDA Certified Preplanning Consultant CPC – July 29, 2016 – 6 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

Virginia Morticians Association, Inc. – Professional Development – June 30, 2016 – 6 CEU's. . A motion was made and approved.

NFDA – NFDA Arranger Training – August 23, 2016 – 6 CEU's. . A motion was made and approved.

Apex Continuing Education Solutions – Funeral Service Ethics – Open dates, online or by mail home study – 2 CEU's. . A motion was made and approved.

Apex Continuing Education Solutions – Telephone Inquiry Manual for Funeral Homes– Open dates, online or by mail home study – 2 CEU's. . A motion was made and approved.

Apex Continuing Education Solutions – Creative Marketing Ideals for Funeral Homes– Open dates, online or by mail home study – 2 CEU's. . A motion was made and approved.

Apex Continuing Education Solutions – Working with Difficult People– Open dates, online or by mail home study – 2 CEU's. . A motion was made and approved.

Apex Continuing Education Solutions – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace – Open dates, online or by mail home study – 2 CEU’s. . A motion was made and approved.

Apex Continuing Education Solutions – Federal Regulations and Compliance – Open dates, online or by mail home study – 2 CEU’s. . A motion was made and approved.

Apex Continuing Education Solutions – OSHA Essentials – Open dates, online or by mail home study – 2 CEU’s. . A motion was made and approved.

The CEU Committee wanted to remind everyone the courses taken for certification requirements cannot be used at the same time for CEU’s.

AJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, Code § 10-501 et. Seq., on a motion by Victor C. March, Sr., President and seconded the Board unanimously voted to close its meeting.